BEFORE THE NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL, MUMBAI BENCH CP No.: 806/252/NCLT/MB/MAH/2017

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Under section 252 of the Companies Act, 2013 In the matter of

M/S. Riona Wines Private Limited., F-1, Mukund Apartment, Near Ganesh Mandir, Sadashiv Peth, Miraj, Sangli - 416410. ...Petitioner/Applicant Company

Registrar of Companies, Pune

.....Respondent

Order delivered on: 11.01.2018

Coram :

Hon'ble M. K. Shrawat, Member (J) Hon'ble Bhaskara Pantula Mohan, Member (J)

For the Petitioner :

Mr. Chirag R. Sonecha i/b Pratik Dhole (CS), Advocate, Authorised Representative for the Petitioner/ Applicant Company.

Per : Bhaskara Pantula Mohan, Member (J)

ORDER

- This present petition/application has been filed under Section 252 of the Companies Act, 2013 (hereinafter as Act) by "M/S. Riona Wines Private Limited" (hereinafter as Petitioner Company) praying for restoring its name in the Register maintained by the Registrar of Companies, Pune (hereinafter as ROC).
- The Petitioner Company was incorporated with the ROC, Pune on 16th October, 2007; having CIN: U15520PN2007PTC130855.
- 3. The Petitioner Company is mainly engaged in the business of manufacture, processor, farmer, contract farming, importer, exporter, distiller, refiner, fermenter, converter, bottler, distributor, preserver, packer, mover, consignor, seller, buyer, reseller, transporter, stockiest, agent, sub-agent, broker, mover, consultant, supplier, indenter, concessionaire or otherwise to deal in all types of beverages, including hot drinks, wine, beer, mineral water, liquors and their derivatives, solvents, mixtures, by-product, intermediates & ingredients, whether made of natural or synthetic material.
- 4. The name of the Petitioner Company was struck off from the Register on account of the reasons that, the Company is not carrying on any business and that there was no business operation for a period of last two financial years and have not made any application within such period for obtaining the status of Dormant Company under S. 455 of the Act. The ROC has published a public notice for Striking off and Dissolution of Company i.e. STK 7 dated 22nd July, 2017.

Submissions from the Petitioners:

Mrohm:

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- 5. The Learned Representative for the Petitioner Company submits that, the Petitioner Company is a running Company and has assets as well as corresponding liabilities including the statutory dues. Further, the Company has not made any application for obtaining the status of Dormant Company under S. 455 of the Act. Further that, the Petitioner Company had never in the past, on its own, moved any application for Strike off under S. 248 (2) of the Companies Act, 2013.
- 6. It is further submitted that, on 5th April, 2017 the Company submitted a Reply/Representation Letter to Registrar of Companies Pune intimating that the Company is willing to file all its pending forms and Annual Returns as soon as possible.
- 7. The Learned Representative for the Petitioner Company further submitted that, the Petitioner Company now has all the remaining documents ready and prepared and is willing to file the same before the ROC, if so permitted. Further the Petitioner Company is willing to file any other necessary document which are required by the ROC.

Submissions from the Respondent/RoC:

- 8. The ROC has forwarded its report dated 08.01.2018 bearing no. ROCP/U/s. 252/2018/188/10190, 10191 inter alia stating therein that, the ROC has issued the notice in Form STK 1 to the Petitioner Company on the ground that, the Company is not carrying on any business and that there was no business operation for a period of last two financial years and have not made any application within such period for obtaining the status of Dormant Company under S. 455 of the Act. But there is no reply to the said notice from the side of the Petitioner Company. Hence, consequentially the ROC has issued public notice i.e. STK 7 dated 11.07.2017 intimating that the name of Company is been struck-off from the Register of ROC.
- 9. It is also submitted that, the Petitioner Company has not filed the Annual Returns and Balance Sheets with the ROC for the F. Y. 2014-2015 and 2015-2016. And as the Annual Returns were not filed for the said period, the ROC came to conclusion that, the Petitioner Company has ceased to its business. And consequentially the name has been struck-off from the Register of ROC.
- 10. It is also submitted that, the Petitioner Company has submitted its reply dated 5th April, 2017 stating that "Keep company's name active on records of RoC and allow company to do its pending as well as current year Annual Filing." However as per MCA records, it is submitted that company has not filed its Annual Returns & Balance Sheets for the year 2014-15 & 2015-16 till date.
- 11. However, it is further submitted in the said report that the ROC has no objection to restore the name of the Petitioner Company, if the Petitioner Company is willing to comply with the provisions of the Act, subject to imposition of Cost.

Findings:

11. That, the facts and circumstances of the case have enlightened that the relevant documents which are to be filed, are ready with the Company and the Company is willing to file the same, if so permitted. Further that, the accounts of the Petitioner Company were audited and the audited accounts have been approved within prescribed time. Further that, it is not a case that the Company is not actively engage in the business or not stopped business activities; as apprehended by the Learned ROC. The ground for strike-off i.e. "no business operations for a period of last two financial years is not correct".

Hprom:

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- 12. Further that, the Petitioner Company has Reserves and surplus of Rs. 5,41,101/- as reflected in its Audited Balance Sheet as on 31st March, 2017.
- 13. That, the Company has not deposited heavy cash in its Bank Account during the period of Demonetisation i.e. from 8th November, 2016 to 31st December, 2016, instead of regular trade deposits, as noticed from the annexed Affidavit along with this Petition/Application.
- 14. Hence, upon considering the facts and circumstances of this present petition/application, this Bench is of the view that, it would be just and proper to order restoration of the name of the Petitioner Company in the Register of Companies maintained by the ROC.
- 15. Accordingly, this Petition/Application is allowed. The restoration of the Petitioner Company's name to the Register of Companies maintained by the ROC Pune, is hereby ordered, with a direction that the Company shall comply with the Provisions of the Act. And further it will be subject to payment of costs of Rs. 10,000/- (Rs. Ten Thousands only) to be paid by way of Demand Draft in favour of "Pay and Accounts Officer, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Mumbai", within 7 days from the receipt of the duly certified copy of this Order, to this office. Consequentially thereupon the Bank Account/s if freezed shall get defreezed and to be operated by the Petitioner Company.
- 16. This Petition bearing No. 806/252/NCLT/MB/MAH/2017 is, therefore, disposed of on the terms directed above. The Learned ROC shall give effect of this Order only after perusal of the Compliance report of cost imposed. The Company is directed to file all the required documents and shall fulfil other relevant statutory compliances within 30 days from Restoration of its name in the Register of Companies maintained by ROC.

Sd/-

Bhaskara Pantula Mohan Memebr (J)

Sd/-

M. K. Shrawat Member (J)

11th January, 2018